

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

UNCLAS STATE 194109

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BL

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION: CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL INC.
VIS: PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA

REF: LA PAZ 5607

1. JOHN AND CHARLES CRAWFORD, CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL INC., STATE THAT REPLY TO GOB LETTER OF JULY 17, 1975, WAS SENT ON AUGUST 5. CRAWFORDS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED LETTER OF AUGUST 12.

2. CRAWFORD EXECUTIVES STATE THAT COMPANY INSTALLED NEW MANUAL TRANSMISSION IN CAR AND THAT TRANSMISSION WAS IN PERFECT WORKING ORDER WHEN CAR SHIPPED TO BOLIVIA. CRAWFORD REPLY TO GOB NOTES THAT AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION IN CAR WHEN RECEIVED FROM FACTORY WAS REMOVED BY CRAWFORD AT GOB REQUEST, BUT NOW SUPERFLUOUS INDICATOR DIAL LEFT IN CAR. COMPANY STATES THAT BOLIVIAN COMPLAINT OVER TRANSMISSION REFERS TO PRESENCE OF THIS DIAL.

3. ON ARMOR PLATING, COMPANY NOTES THAT FIBER GLASS ARMOR REQUESTED BY GOB HAS BEEN INSTALLED BEHIND REAR SEAT. FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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COSMETIC PURPOSES, A COVERING WRAPPING OF KEVLAR (A PENE-

TRATION-RESISTANT SUBSTANCE WHICH LOOKS LIKE UPHOLSTERY)

WAS PLACED AROUND ARMOR. THE CRAWFORDS STATE THAT THIS COVERING MATERIAL ALONE WILL PREVENT PENETRATION OF .357 MAGNUM BULLET.

4. REGARDING SUSPENSION AND DOOR PROBLEMS, COMPANY HAS INSTALLED HEAVIEST CHRYSLER SUSPENSION AVAILABLE (HEAVY-DUTY SUSPENSION WITH SWAYBAR). ADJUSTMENT OF DOORS AFTER PERIOD OF USE IS ROUTINE REQUIREMENT OF ALL ARMORED CARS, ACCORDING TO COMPANY, DUE TO AMOUNT OF ARMOR IN DOORS. FREQUENCY OF ADJUSTMENT IS LESSENER IF USERS AVOID HEAVY SLAMMING OF DOORS.

5. COMPANY WILL PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH COPY OF ITS AUGUST 5 RESPONSE TO GOB. SISCO

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